

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A dieting aid comprising at least one ~~pair of frames~~ maxillary frame and at least one mandibular frame which are adapted to be secured over portions of the maxillary and mandibular dentitions respectively of a wearer, said maxillary and mandibular frames being created using impressions of the maxillary and mandibular jaws so the resulting frames fit snugly over the plurality of teeth for which said frames are made, ~~and a first magnetic means secured to said maxillary frame and a second magnetic means secured to said mandibular frame, said first and second magnetic means being at least partially superposed with respect to one another, a first plurality of inter-dentally extensible and retractable screws provided in mountings on one side of both frames adapted to releasably secure the frames~~ at least one maxillary frame over said plurality of teeth maxillary dentitions and a second plurality of inter-dentally extensible and retractable screws adapted to releasably secure the at least one mandibular frame over the mandibular dentitions.
2. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 1 wherein said at least one maxillary and at least one mandibular frames are ~~created~~ constructed for the dental quadrants of the maxillary and mandibular dentitions.
3. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 1 wherein the at least one maxillary and at least one mandibular frames are ~~created in such a manner~~ constructed to provide interdentally extending nibs on the lingual side of said frames.
4. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 3 wherein the ~~polarities of the first magnetic means on the at least one maxillary frame has a first polarity and the second magnetic means on the at least one mandibular frame are~~ has a second polarity opposite to said first polarity on the respective surfaces thereof which that are more proximate to one another when the frames are ~~in~~ mounted on the teeth within the mouth of the wearer.
5. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 4 wherein the first and second magnetic

means are split pole magnets.

6. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 4 wherein a shoulder formation is mounted to one a preselected side of one of the a first magnetic means provided on at least one a first frame secured to one or other of the maxillary or mandibular a first dentition, the a second magnetic means provided on a second frame secured to the alternate a second dentition above or below in vertical alignment with said first magnetic means dentition, said second magnetic means abutting said shoulder formations formation when the first and second dentitions are in their substantially occluded condition to prevent significant lateral movement thereof.

7. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 4 wherein the frames include buttresses which respectively support the first and second magnetic means.

8. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 4 wherein the first and second magnetic means are disposed on the buccal side of the frame as it is situated inside the mouth.

9. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 4 wherein the disposition and orientation of the first and second magnetic means on each of the maxillary and mandibular frames, respectively, is such that when in mating contact ensuring the occlusion of the jaws of the wearer, the so-called a freeway space between the biting or occlusal surfaces of at least the anterior teeth is maintained.

10. (original) A dieting aid according to claim 4 wherein the frames substantially cover the external surfaces of the teeth of the dental quadrants over which said frames are secured.

11. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 1 wherein the first and second magnetic means are laser welded to the frames and are provided with a planar mating surface.

12. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 1 wherein the first and second magnetic means are secured to the frame by being set in an acrylic compound mass disposed to one side of the frame.

13. (original) A dieting aid according to claim 12 wherein the frames are provided with retention lugs on the buccal side of the frame when disposed over the teeth within the mouth by virtue of which the acrylic mass is secured to the frames.

14. (original) A dieting aid according to claim 13 wherein the acrylic compound mass is tooth colored.

15. (original) A dieting aid according to claim 13 wherein the acrylic compound mass is flesh colored.

16. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 1 wherein the frames ~~consist of~~ include a tooth biting ~~or occluded~~ surface cover ~~portion~~, and a side wall ~~portion which that~~ depends from said cover where the frame is adapted to fit a mandibular dentition ~~or and that~~ extends upwardly ~~of the from said cover portion depending on whether where~~ the frame is ~~for affixing~~ adapted to fit a maxillary ~~or mandibular~~ dentition, said side wall ~~portion in use ideally~~ being in contact with the necks of the teeth over which the frame is ~~applied~~ positioned.

17. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 16 wherein the sidewall ~~portion~~ is disposed ~~beneath or above the cover portion~~ on the opposite side of said cover ~~portion~~ to that on which the interdental screws are disposed so that a lateral clamping effect is achieved therewith.

18. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 16 wherein the cover ~~portion~~ is imperforate.

19. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 16 wherein the cover ~~portion~~ is of lattice-type construction.

20. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 1 wherein the first and second magnetic means are replaceable.

21. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 20 wherein said first and second

magnetic means ~~consist of~~ includes first and second magnets, respectively, having a body which terminates in at least one substantially planar contact surface, said body being received in collet formations secured to the respective buccal side sides of the maxillary and mandibular frames.

22. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 21 wherein ~~the respective bodies of the screw threads are formed in said first and second magnets are provided with a screw thread which interengages with a screwthreadedly engage~~ corresponding thread threads formed on the inside surface of the collet formations on the ~~frame~~ maxillary and mandibular frames, respectively.

23. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 1 wherein ~~each~~ at least one of the frames for ~~either or both of the upper and lower dentitions are~~ is cast as a single piece and resiliently deformable so as to be capable of snap fitting onto the lingual side of the teeth and over the biting surfaces thereof.

24. (currently amended) A dieting aid according to claim 17 wherein the side wall ~~portion~~ of the frame allows for the undercut of the teeth with whose sides said side wall ~~portions~~ is in contact to ~~take account of~~ accommodate the barrel shape of the teeth above the gums.

25. (previously presented) A dieting aid according to claim 1 wherein the frames are cast in Titanium.

26. (currently amended) A method of restricting oral ingestion comprising the mounting of at least ~~two frames~~ a first and a second frame to the maxillary and mandibular jaws, respectively, of a human, said first and second frames having first and second magnetic means secured thereto, respectively, in positions wherein said first and second magnetic means are substantially in juxtaposition with one another when the jaws are closed, and wherein the magnetic forces of attraction or repulsion constrain the jaws of the wearer to assume either an adjacent or displaced apart position respectively, said magnetic forces substantially limiting the ability of the wearer to move the jaws together and apart repetitively in the action of mastication.

27. (previously presented) A method according to claim 26 wherein four frames are used, said

frames being secured to the upper, lower, left and right rear dental quadrants.

28. (currently amended) A method according to claim 26 wherein the polarities of the first and second magnetic means are opposite on those sides of the first and second magnetic means on the maxillary frame and the mandibular frame which are closest to one another when the frames are affixed within the mouth of a human.

29. (currently amended) A method according to claim 26 wherein the polarities of the first and second magnetic means are alike on those sides of the first and second magnetic means on the maxillary frame and the mandibular frame, respectively, which are closest to one another when the ~~splints~~ frames are affixed within the mouth of a human.

30. (currently amended) A method according to claim 28 wherein the first and second magnetic means employed in ~~each frame~~ said maxillary and mandibular frames, respectively, include first and second split pole magnets, respectively, which provide closed field magnetism, said first and second split pole magnets in the maxillary and mandibular frames being angularly offset relative to one another by substantially 180° so that the adjacent opposing polarity ~~portions~~ portion of ~~each magnet~~ said first magnetic means in ~~one of the said~~ said maxillary ~~or mandibular frames~~ frame ~~approaches or is brought into~~ is drawn toward contact with the opposite opposing polarity ~~portions~~ portion of the second magnets magnetic means in the ~~alternate frame~~ mandibular frame as the jaws are occluded.

31. (cancelled)

32. (currently amended) A method according to claim 26 wherein the maxillary and mandibular frames are cast according to the shape of the maxillary and mandibular teeth of the wearer, respectively, over which said maxillary and mandibular frames are affixed.

33. (currently amended) A method according to claim 26 wherein dental filler material is applied to the fitting surface of the maxillary and mandibular frames before application over the specific dental quadrants.

34. (previously presented) A snoring prevention device comprising at least one pair of frames which are capable of being secured to the maxillary and mandibular jaws respectively of a wearer by suitable means, each of said frames having secured thereto magnetic means in a disposition such that the magnetic means of the maxillary frame at least partially superpose the magnetic means of the mandibular frame when secured to the teeth within the mouth of a wearer, and wherein the frames are cast from impressions of the maxillary and mandibular jaws so as to fit snugly over the plurality of teeth for which said frames are cast and wherein the frames are provided with inter-dentally extensible and retractable means capable of releasably securing the frames over said plurality of teeth.

35. (previously presented) A dietary aid, comprising:

a first frame adapted to overlie at least one maxillary dentition in secured relation thereto;

a second frame adapted to overlie at least one mandibular dentition in secured relation thereto;

a first magnet mounted to said first frame;

a second magnet mounted to said second frame;

said first and second magnets being of opposite polarities relative to one another;

said first and second magnets being disposed in vertical alignment with one another;

whereby said first and second frames are attracted to one another, thereby making it difficult for a wearer of said dietary aid to ingest food.

36. (previously presented) A dietary aid, comprising:

a first frame adapted to overlie at least one maxillary dentition in secured relation thereto;

a second frame adapted to overlie at least one mandibular dentition in secured relation thereto;

a first magnet mounted to said first frame;

a second magnet mounted to said second frame;

said first and second magnets having a common polarity;

said first and second magnets being disposed in vertical alignment with one another;

whereby said first and second frames are repelled from one another, thereby making it difficult for a wearer of said dietary aid to masticate.